

Docket 56368
Serial No. 10/717,688

PATENT APPLICATION

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Office Action on the merits dated November 22, 2004. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-13, 15, 16, and 18-20 stand allowed. Claims 8, 16, and 19 were previously withdrawn but have been rejoined by the examiner. Claims 4, 6, 14, and 17 were previously canceled, and claims 12 and 13 are hereby canceled. Therefore, claims 1-3, 5, 7-11, 15, 16, and 18-20 remain in this application with claims 1, 9, and 18 being independent.

IN THE CLAIMS:35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections:

Claims 5, 8, 12-13, and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 5 is rejected because the recited elongated body in line 2 constitutes a double inclusion of the hollow body recited in the base claim, the recited ends in line 2 constitute a double inclusion of the ends previously recited in the base claim, and due to the double inclusion, "the ends" at the end of the claim lacks clear antecedent basis. Claim 5 has been amended to eliminate the double inclusion relative to the hollow body and ends (defined in claim 1) and to clarify that the hollow body has an elongate configuration. Claim 5 has also been amended to

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clarify that it is the hollow body of the track assembly that includes the pair of posts. By overcoming the double inclusion objection, the antecedent basis issue has been resolved. Therefore, claim 5 should now be in condition for allowance, and such is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 is rejected because "the posts" and "the elongated body" lack antecedent basis. Claim 8 has been amended to properly depend from claim 5, providing antecedent basis for "the posts" and to recite that the posts are associated with the "hollow body" (which has antecedent basis in claims 1 and 5). Therefore, claim 8 should now be in condition for allowance, and such is respectfully requested.

Claims 12 and 13 have been canceled.

Claim 16 is rejected because it depends from a canceled claim (claim 14). Claim 16 has been amended to properly depend from claim 9. Since claim 16 now properly depends from an allowed claim, claim 16 should now be in condition for allowance, and such is respectfully requested.

This application should now be in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested. If the examiner has any suggestions that would place this application in even better condition for allowance, he is invited to contact the applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: December 14, 2004

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